

**Valve**

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**Abstract**

The subject of the invention is a valve having a valve body (15') with an inlet (27), an outlet (28) and a valve opening (30) between inlet and outlet, which opening is surrounded by a valve seat (31). A valve element (35) can be brought into and out of interaction with the valve seat in order to open and close the valve. The valve element can be made to oscillate in order to produce a reduced flow rate for the flow medium to be carried through the valve. The valve element may be assigned a final control element (34), which may be assigned to an electric solenoid. If the solenoid is excited by the full wave of an alternating current, the valve is held stably in an open position. If the solenoid is excited by the half-wave of an alternating current, the valve body oscillates. The valve is preferably used as a pilot valve of a main valve (10), the valve element then being made to oscillate in order to have a reduced flow rate

through the pilot valve when the main valve is closed. 

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